COMIX WORLD 181. October 1, 1981. ©Clay Geerdes, Box 7081, Berkeley, CA 94707. All Rights Reserved. Logo: Will Meugniot. Sub rates: $6 for 24 in U.S. I've collated the last of my back issues. I have a small number of sets that run from 1-160. Some have xerox copies in them and a few are missing entirely. Those who want the back copies can get one of these sets for $20 postpaid. When these are gone, that's it.* David Miller came by yesterday with the art for ORGANS ON PARADE 2 so we took it to the printer right away. Copies are here. 50¢/stamp from CW. More great parodies of the old comic strips. Adults only on all ugs and newave comix.* COMIX WAVE 4 is ready. It's a big 20 pager, digest-sized, with a cover by George "Yikes" Erling and interior art by Valentino, Holman, Oliver, Howard, Miller, Foster, Siergey, and Johnny Edgar. COMIX WAVE is story-oriented and I intend to publish six of them in 1982, so there will be room for some good art work. Let's see what you've got. You'll get some copies, exposure, and, if we start to show any profit, some money. I want to thank Mark of Berkeley's Best of Two Worlds for putting up a nice display of the minis and other newave zines. If you're in that neighborhood (2512 Telegraph, Berkeley) on Sunday, Sept. 27th, you can get in on the ECLIPSE party & hobnob with folks like John Pound, Steve Englehart, and Marshall Rogers.* The guys who do MONDAY FUNNIES are putting out a mag called GIRLS GALORE and they have room for art if you've got something of that nature. Send to them at Box 19818, Portland, ORE 97219.* I've seen the cover for Michael Roden's QUEEN OF HAIRY FLIES. Looks like a winner.* Art show at Farm Gallery, 1499 Potrero Ave., SF, Oct 12--Nov 20, 1981. Art by Guy Colwell, Jay Kinney, R. Diggs, Justin Green, Bill Griffith, Spain, and many others. Reception Fri Oct 16 7-11. Info: 826-4290.* Bill and Zippy at Comics and Comix on Sat the 26th all afternoon. Bill will be signing the new anthology of his ZIPPY STORIES.* Don Fiene's R CRUMB CHECKLIST ought to be out soon from Boatner Norton Press. Check your local store. It will be distributed in California by Pacific Comics, 4887 Ronson Ct., Suite E, San Diego, CA 92111.* Get in on Guy and Sally's REAL ART LETTER. POB 31508, SF.

$10.00 A YEAR WORTH IT.

MEGA-SERIALS

We seem to be living through an era of mega-serials, STAR WARS, SUPERMAN, OMEN, etc. The idea is totally commercial. If you saw the first one, you have to go to the second and the third. It worked very well during the forties. I was hooked on stuff like DICK TRACY FIGHTS CRIME, THE PURPLE MONSTER STRIKES, SUPERMAN, BATMAN, and (whew! choke! wheeze!) THE BLACK WHIP (Linda Sterling in what was a 15 chapter bondage western, a Zorro imitation, but what the hell--). I was a true serial junkie and I never forgave my father when he punished me for some stupid thing (mud on my mother's clean linoleum? flipping up some girl's dress? who remembers.) by not letting me go to see the last chapter of THE TIGER WOMAN. Let me tell you, last chapters are where it's at. That's when you find out who the man in the iron mask is and see all the bad guys get their just desserts. 15 weeks and you've got it sewed up and the theaters have all those nickles and dimes in the bank. I hate to break your hearts, when you stand in line for hours these days and fork over five bucks to see THE EMPIRE STRIKES BACK, but it was nickles for kids and dimes for grown-ups back in 1942-43. I remember when the first drive-in opened in our town, the STAR-VIEW on 48th Street--you could pile as many people as you could in one car and go in for a buck. The record was something like 16 or 18 people. Those early serials were a good time. No gore. No real blood. No million dollar special effects. At Republic and Columbia, they made that stuff up as they went along, but it was thrilling. Today, you have to wait years to see what's going to happen to Luke and Han Solo. What kid is going to remember that long? A lot of kids who saw STAR WARS went through puberty before THE EMPIRE STRIKES BACK and didn't even care that Lucas wasn't doing the story sequentially. It was a bore after the snow scene for me. And the heroes get hurt, jeez, what kinda shit is that? Heroes don't get hurt. No hero in the early serials even got his pants creased or torn; Well, maybe Jungle Jim once in awhile--that's Jim in RAIDERS OF THE LOST ARK calling himself Indiana Jones, but you never saw Jim, did you? He was portrayed in the movies by Johnny Weismuller. He was the true Tarzan (though Buster Crabbe had his good points). What I see in all these new versions of the old stories is incredible advancements in technology (photography, special effects, Dolby sound), but no advance at all in story. And the loss in values is pronounced. What made the Weismuller Tarzans stand out was the family structure and the morality they advocated. Man lived in harmony with nature in Tarzan and anyone who tried to upset that harmony found Tarzan there to restore it. Jane was mother and lover and she didn't exist on film just to be sexy (like Bo Derek in the recent remake). In RAIDERS, most of which is ripped off from various Tarzan movies, Jones is not interested in restoring the natural order, rather he is a competitor for the prize, as much a killer as Belloc. RAIDERS, of course, is a closer reflection of contemporary America; the Weismuller Tarzans and Jungle Jims were idealistic and perhaps nostalgic even in their own time, but I can't help preferring them to these new blood and gore terrorist fantasies. Now when I say new, that word needs to be qualified, because these recent films are not new at all. They're all remakes of earlier material.

COMIX WAVE
A 'COMIX WORLD' COMIC
NUMBER 4
..SHOWS HOW MUCH YOU KNOW!
YOU'LL NEVER FINISH THIS IN TIME FOR TH' FOURTH ISSUE!
COVER BY MODERN MOE

1.75 pp. First 4 issues $5 pp.

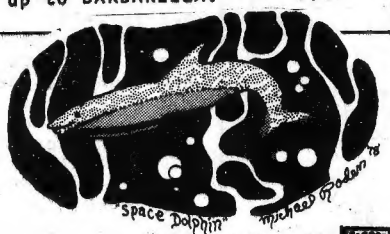
Congratulations to my friend, Clara Felix, who has just published the first issue of her nutrition-oriented newsletter, THE FELIX LETTER.

-Clay

ESCAPE FROM NEW YORK calls to mind several earlier works in the same vein, BRAVE NEW WORLD (1931), 1984 (1948), FARENHEIT 451, and THE TIME MACHINE. Compare ESCAPE FROM NEW YORK with SOYLENT GREEN. Same concept basically. The people (prisoners) just haven't been processed yet. Ever notice that technological progression seems to parallel human regression? In all of these futuristic progressions or projections, humanity remains basically uneducated and inarticulate. HEAVY METAL seems to imply that men will regress to near animal level in the deep future. Why? Who can believe those inarticulate creatures could manipulate that complex instrument panel in that space pod? If you think at all during HEAVY METAL, you'll find it a mess. It's a loud, disgusting, dehumanizing, degrading film. The beautiful artwork is degraded by the stupidity of the stories and the banal dialogue. This is the most intellectually sterile animated film since THE NINE LIVES OF FRITZ THE CAT. It's even worse from a moral standpoint. Good vs Evil with evil getting 99% of the action. Well, there isn't anything new about that, is there? You can't bring God onstage, because he doesn't play well. Evil is dramatic therefore evil is always the focus. Hell, no one leaves SUPERMAN II without knowing General Zod (Terence Stamp) won the battle. So he was tricked in the last reel. So what? He was obviously superior all the rest of the film. With or without the glasses, Reeve plays the character as a wimp. Evil is the hero in HEAVY METAL and his demise at the end is a crock of you-know-what. That inarticulate girl riding that bird off into the sunset at the end (like the singing cowboy of the forties) was one of the sappiest endings I've ever seen on film. I didn't believe it for a second. And no respectable science-fiction writer would have done anything like that. In HM, we're stuck with evil as hero. Now, in WOLFEN, we come to the same thing, and it's curious because the wolves are not supposed to be evil. What we are told is that they are protecting their territory. From their point of view, man is the savage. Yet the film presents them as a negative horror, killing, maiming, and mutilating. In the end, the hero (a cop a la dirty Harry--indeed, he even says the same lines with his woman co-star, but these directors let her live; Harry's woman sidekick was offed on Alcatraz by a revolutionary.) sides with the wolves and saves his life. What happens in this film is we are treated to an overdose of evil and gore visually, while we are told by the Indians that these wolves are the good guys, just defending their turf against the billionaire redevelopers. They don't want you to walk out of this one singing "Sweet Violets." And VICTORY? There's a cheesy number. The last time I saw it it was called THE LONGEST YARD (remember Burt Reynolds organizing the cons into a football game against the guards?). Well, the cons are the same, but this time they play the Nazis a game of soccer. Nothing wrong with remakes, but they ought to be better and I just don't feel that HEAVY METAL measures up to BARBARELLA. C.G.

NEWAVES: You can get the following from Timothy Fay, Teenage Lobotomy Productions, 729 Kimball St., NE, Fridley, MN55432. STOMPER FUNNIES 3. 25¢/stamp. TANNA AND SHERU (24pp, 5 x 8 1/2 children's story), and COL PUD'S SINGLE SHOT, a 16-pager, 8 1/2 x11", funhy animal drawings. $1. TANNA is $1.25pp.* Michael Roden will send you his CITY OF BONE COMIX for 50¢/stamp. 611 Garfield Ave, Milford, OH 45150. a mini. 200 printed. Order MOLDY REMAINS at the same time 75¢/stamp.* You know how viable a movement is by the number of projects underway and there are so many newave zines in the works they are virtually uncountable. Tom Brinkman is still collecting art for TATTOOED PAPER. Jamie Alder is putting together INDUSTRIAL TOILET PAPER. Dan Taylor plans a zine called NEWAVE KARTOONZ. I have half a dozen minis in progress and a lot of art toward COMIX WAVES 5 and 6. David Miller will do the cover for 5. Cover of 6 is in from John Howard. In Texas, Brad Foster is working on a new issue of FEVER PITCH and has a lot of solo minis out. I liked his UNKNOWN COMICS HISTORY mini so much I asked him to condense it for the centerfold of COMIX WAVE 4.* I've heard Denis Kitchen is planning a music oriented comic to be done quarterly.* Folks planning to order comix and things through the mail, I advise you to get the orders in now. People start mailing Christmas stuff in October and the mails get messed up.
-Clay Geerdes

SUZIE AND JOHNNY is a new one from England with art by Antonio who acknowledges his debt to Rand Holmes. I think those who liked "Wings over Tiajuana" will find "The Morocco Run" just as much fun. Antonio is the artist who did AMAZING LOVE, RAW PURPLE, and HOT NADS. SUZIE is $3 pp from Last Gasp, 2180 Bryant, San Francisco, CA 94110.



The Laid-back Adventures of
SUZIE AND JOHNNIE
ICHTAL LAKE
THIS IS WONDERFUL, JOHNNIE...FANTASTIC!!
I'M HIP, BABE!
OH, C'MON, DON'T BE AFRAID TO GET YOUR HAIR WET! AW...AH!
SUZIE! SUZIE!...THERE'S SOMETHING DOWN HERE! FEEL IT!...WHAT IS IT?
IT FEELS LIKE...
YOUR PRICK!...YOU THINK OF NOTHING ELSE!...HORNY SOD!
YOU GOT A SWEET TOUCH, SUZIE!...AH! AH!
MMm...
WHAT WAS THAT?
NOTHING!
OH!...WHAT'S THAT?...SHIT! MAYBE THERE'S A COPPER OUT THERE!
C-CHRIST! WHAT WAS THAT?
HEY, RELAX, JOHNNIE...NOBODY'S OUT THERE!
YOU'RE TENSE MAN, C'MON OVER HERE, LET ME SQUEEZE...
YEAH, SURE!
TOO TIRED, YOU SAID...EH...AH! AH!

TIJUANA BIBLES

Found a warehouse in Kentucky with this four volume set of SEX IN COMICS, the most extraordinary complete history and collection of Tijuana Bibles I've ever read! These volumes are beautiful and a MUST reading. Besides pages and pages of history, these volumes reprint over 300 COMPLETE BIBLES IN FULL SIZE! $10.00 per volume. $35.00 per set of four. $1.00 postage. $1.00 insurance (optional) (not responsible for uninsured crates). No cash, please.

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